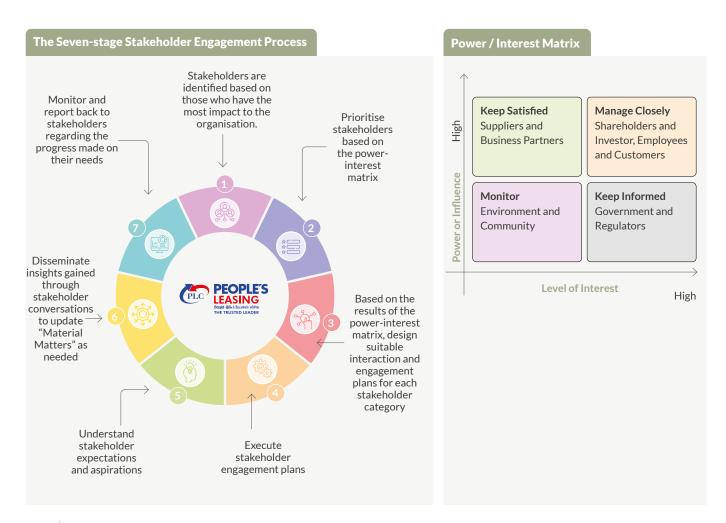
# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

**GRI 2-29** 

People's Leasing & Finance PLC recognises that its stakeholders are one of the most valuable assets and that good stakeholder relations is critical for optimal operations. As such, the Company strives to continually improve relations with all material stakeholders to understand their perceptions and to gain insights on future trends, possible risks in order to determine material matters and areas for strategic development.

The Board, as the apex body responsible for stakeholder engagement, has established a formal stakeholder engagement process to facilitate structured and constructive engagements as appropriate to various stakeholder categories.

# **Material Stakeholder Engagement Objectives IMPROVED RELATIONS** with Develop and sustain company stakeholders through trust, transparency, AWARENESS of broader social, understanding, partnership and economic and environmental RISKS AND constructive engagement **OPPORTUNITIES INFORMED STRATEGIC PLANNING that IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING BY** integrates stakeholders' interests **STAKEHOLDERS** of People's Leasing's position, issues, challenges and requirements with accurate information dissemination to stakeholders Support CONSENSUS-BASED **Ensure ALIGNED GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS DECISION-MAKING ESTABLISHED RESPONSIBILITY AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABILITY** and **ACCOUNTABILITY** of all parties relevance of company activities towards value creation for all stakeholders



# **Shareholders and Investor**

We manage our business to provide retail shareholders, institutional investors, bondholders, financial analysts and rating agencies' returns that correspond to the risk undertaken.

## Quality of the relationship

Positive

## Importance to People's Leasing

Critical to support the business growth through the provision of capital.

# Impacted Capitals



## Responsible Authority Driving Engagement

Company Secretary

### **SDG**







# Risks Equity risk

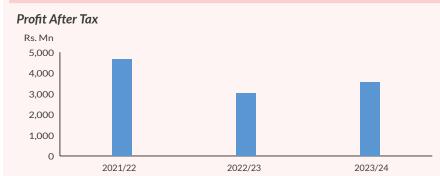
## **Engagement Channels**

- » Annual Reports
- » AGM
- » Interim Financial Statements
- » Disclosure and announcement to the CSE
- » Proactively and directly engage investors
- » Participation in various investor conferences

## **Value Creation Commitments**

- » Responsible and balanced business conduct and sound ESG practices
- » Consistent bottom line
- » Satisfactory shareholder returns
- » Timely disclosure of price sensitive information
- » Transparency
- » Succession plan with sustained growth strategy
- » Robust risk management system
- » Board effectiveness

## Outcomes



# Dividend per share (Rs.)

2021/22	1.25
2022/23	0.50
2023/24	1.40

## Key issues during the year

Consistent Returns regardless of varying economic cycles.

Organisational resilience to safeguard business continuity in turbulent times.

Consistent financial results enabling incremental growth in dividend yield for shareholders.

Expectation of greater clarity regarding performance and prospects, especially in times of uncertainty

## Response

Declared and paid dividend of Rs. 2,858.64 million for financial year 2023/24.

PLCCORE System implementation to strengthen the credit evaluation process.

Prudent management of liquidity position.

Strategic reorientation of business fundamentals in response to market influences, while pursuing diversification opportunities to relive margin pressure in tough times.

Adherence to all regulatory disclosure requirements for listed entities and NBFIs, including annual returns, publication of quarterly results, Annual report, shareholder information and Board changes.

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

### Customer

Individual customers and corporate clients who are key to driving business growth.

## Importance to People's Leasing

Integral to the growth and development of the Company and maintaining business sustainability

## **Responsible Authorities Driving Engagement**

Heads of Touch-points Business Unit Heads Marketing Department

## Quality of the relationship

Positive













# Risks

# Reputation risk

## **Engagement Channels**

- » Print, electronic and social media
- » Written communication
- » Call Centre
- » Branch network
- » Tech-based platforms
- » Customer visits
- » Day -to-day business interactions
- » CSR initiatives
- » One to one dialogue
- » Client complaints

## Value Creation Commitments

- » Innovative financial solutions and services
- » Ability to facilitate the client's preferred platform
- » Accessibility and convenience
- » Safe and secure transactions with transparent pricing
- » Clear and straightforward product information and ability to obtain the advice
- » Service efficiency
- » Empathetic and friendly service

## Outcomes

## Types of Customers



**Deposit Customers** 

**308,051** (2022/23 - 383,715)

New Customers **63.13**%

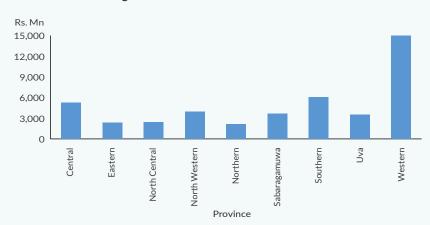


**Lending Customers** 

104,865 (2022/23 - 114,246)

Repeat Customers **36.87**%

## **Province wise Granting**



Province	Rs. Mn
Central	5,269
Eastern	2,332
North Central	2,447
North Western	3,948
Northern	2,105
Sabaragamuwa	3,656
Southern	6,085
Uva	3,492
Western	14,961

# Key issues during the year

Demand for tailor-made financial solutions for different customer segments.

Customer need to proactively engage with the Company.

Data privacy concerns arising as a result of increased use of digital channels.

Growing demand for easily accessible, convenient and affordable access to formal financial channels.

# Response

Launch of "Classique by PLC" for high net-worth customers. Expand gold loan operations.

Established Customer Service and Dispute Resolution Department.

Implemented the Personal Data Protection policy.

Aggressive campaign to promote Branches offering gold loan products increased to 104.

# **Employees and Unions**

Our team of 2,052 individuals are key to driving our performance

## Importance to People's Leasing

Provide the knowledge, skills and experience required for to drive the business forward

# Responsible Authority Driving Engagement

HR Department

## Quality of the relationship

Stable

# Impacted Capitals











## Risks

## Human Resource risk

## **Engagement Channels**

- » Management Committee Meetings
- » Strategic planning sessions
- » Social media groups and corporate communications
- » Technology driven platforms
- » People's Leasing Employee Union
- » Operational guidelines and policies
- » Employee grievance handling» Health and safety committees
- » Care and growth programmes
- » Social events organised by the Company

### Value Creation Commitments

- » Business continuity and sustainable growth
- » Fair remuneration and benefits including health and safety
- » Effective performance management and recognition
- » Job security
- » A safe and inclusive work environment supported by opportunities for career progression
- » Staff up skilling
- » Migration to automated workflows, flexible hours, and workspaces
- Confidentiality and open -door policy

## Outcomes

## **Employee Diversity**

## **Total Employee by Gender**







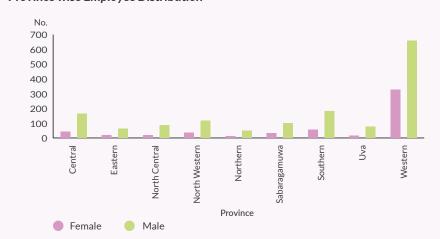
## **Employee Health and Safety**

Detail/Year	2023/24
Road accidents during work hours	No
Lost days recorded due to these accidents	No

## Total Cumulative Experience Years of the Employees

17.990 Years

# Province wise Employee Distribution



# Key issues during the year

Financial security and concern about job prospects, especially during periods of economic uncertainty.

Employee expectation of a safe workplace free of harassment and discrimination.

Quick and effective resolution to grievances.

## Response

 $Reviewed \ and \ updated \ salary \ structures \ for \ all \ employee \ categories \ in \ the \ current \ year.$ 

People's Leasing is an equal opportunity employer and does not tolerate any form of harassment or discrimination at any stage of the employment lifecycle. Strict policies are in place to enforce these practices, while appropriate disciplinary action is taken against those who violate these policies.

A grievance handling process is in place for employees to formally intimate any issues with all grievances are treated seriously and investigated immediately through an impartial review to ensure a fair and equitable resolution within the stipulated timeline.

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We maintain good relationships with the Government and related regulators including the CBSL, CSE, SEC and National and International bodies and association.

# Quality of the relationship

Positive

Ensure the Company operates within a framework of legal and ethical standards, maintains financial stability and fosters market confidence.

## **Impacted Capitals**

## Responsible Authorities Driving Engagement

Compliance Department Company Secretary Finance Department









## Risks

## **Engagement Channels**

Regulatory Risk

- » On site review by the CBSL
- » Dialogue with the policymakers and regulators
- » Directives and circulars
- » Review meetings
- » Compliance reports
- » Off-site review by the CBSL

## Value Creation Commitments

- » Business continuity
- » Compliance with rules and regulations
- Prompt responsiveness towards regulatory amendments
- » Collaborate with the regulator to revive the NBFI sector
- » Sound contribution and active collaboration with industry peers
- » Contribution towards national priorities
- » Fair treatment to customers

## Outcomes

Regulation / Code	Adoption	Adherence
The Companies Act No.7 of 2007 (Companies Act)	Mandatory	Full Compliant
Listing Rules of the Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE)	Mandatory	Full Compliant
Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL), Finance Companies (Corporate Governance) Direction No. 05 of 2021	Mandatory	Full Compliant
Code of Best Practice on Corporate Governance issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka)	Voluntary	Full Compliant

# Key issues during the year

Timely payment of all applicable taxes

Compliance with all applicable regulatory requirements, including new directives

Voluntary adoption of best practices

## Response

The Company paid all taxes on time, valued Rs. 3,845.21 million for the FY 2023/24.

- » Early adoption of regulations, Corporate Governance Rules issued by the CSE for listed entities.
- » ZERO tolerance policy for non-compliance of regulations.

Established the Sustainability Steering Committee to oversee the implementation of the Guidelines on Sustainable Finance Activities for NBFI's.

# The Environment and Community

We nurture healthy relationships with the communities around us and the broader society across the country.

Importance to People's Leasing

**Responsible Authority Driving Engagement** 

Holds the Company accountable as a responsible corporate citizen.

Sustainable Finance Department

Quality of the relationship

Stable

**Impacted Capitals** 



## SDG















# **Engagement Channels**

- » Outreach CSR initiatives
- Carbon footprint data tracking exercise
- Dialogue with institutions, community leaders and community
- Sponsorships

## Value Creation Commitments

- » Advancement of SDGs and targets
- Adhering to national development plans
- Community empowerment and capacity building
- Response to climate change
- Minimum direct environmental impact from business operations
- Timely and relevant information on products and services offered
- Local enterprise development/procurement opportunities

# Outcomes

## Investment on community outreach CSR (Rs.Mn)

2021/22	27.53	2021/2
2022/23	5.57	2022/2
2023/24	0.71	2023/2

## **Investment on Environmental** Conservation (Rs.Mn)

2023/24	1.98
2022/23	1.01
2021/22	1.87

## Key issues during the year

Community projects that currently ongoing under present socio economic conditions.

Long term commitment to climate action.

## Response

Invested Rs. 0.71 million in community upliftment initiatives.

- Launch of the solar financing scheme targeting retail and MSME customer segments.
- Independently verified GHG Emission Report in line with ISO 14064-1.
- **EDGE-Green Building** Certification for the Classique Centre.

# Suppliers and Business Partners

Maintaining sustainable relationship with banks and other financial intermediaries including brokers, agents and suppliers.

Importance to People's Leasing

Responsible Authority Driving **Engagement** 

Suppliers play an important role supporting business continuity and resilience.

Administration/Logistics

Department

# Quality of the relationship

Positive





### SDG



### Risks

Operational risk

## **Engagement Channels**

- » Direct dialogue
- » Supplier appraisals
- Supplier registration
- » Field visits
- » MOU's

- » Service agreements
- » Contractors are inducted as new suppliers and are in line with the Company's values, guidelines, code of conduct and laws

## Value Creation Commitments

- Responsible procurement with timely settlement
- Competitive pricing and bidding procedure
- » Fair dealing and transparency
- » Business opportunities for SME's
- » Prompt response
- » Locally preferred purchasing

# Outcomes

## **Our Business Partners** Vehicle Dealers **Utility Providers** Service Providers and Suppliers Local Financial Correspondent Institutions **Banks**

## Total vehicle suppliers (No.)

2021/22	40,118
2022/23	10,242
2023/24	26,224

## Key issues during the year

Opportunities for new suppliers.

Improving suppliers' alignment with social and environmental issues.

# Response

25 were on-boarded to the Company's supplier registry.

Introduction of a ESG due diligence check-list for all new suppliers.